

Message Text

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64

ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 IO-13 ADP-00 OEP-01 ARA-16 EA-11 AGR-20

CEA-02 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 FRB-02 H-03 INR-10

INT-08 L-03 LAB-06 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 AID-20

CIEP-02 SS-15 STR-08 TAR-02 TRSE-00 USIA-15 PRS-01

OMB-01 RSR-01 /211 W

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R 031750Z AUG 73

FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 148

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L ROME 7843

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ETRD, EAGR, EEC, GATT, I

SUBJECT: TRADE ISSUES

1. DURING MEETINGS WITH FOREIGN TRADE MINISTER MATTEOTTI AND WITH FOREIGN MINISTER MORO AND SECRETARY GENERAL GAJA AUGUST 3, THE AMBASSADOR BROUGHTUP SOYBEANS, FERROUS SCRAP, AND THE 24:6 NEGOTIATIONS.

2. AMBASSADOR EXPLAINED TO MORO WHY THE UNITED STATES WASFORCED TO INSTITUTE CONTROLS ON BOTH SOYBEANS AND FERROUS SCRAP. IN THE CASE OFTHE FORMER, HE NOTED THEITALIAN MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE FERRARI-AGGRADI WILL BE IN WASHINGTON NEXT WEEK TO DISCUSS THIS AND OTHER
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MATTERS. THE ITALIANS APPRECIATE THE NEED TO BRING SOME ORDER

TO THE SOYBEAN MARKET BUT ARE CONCERNED THAT THEY RECEIVE EQUAL TREATMENT WITHOUT BEST CUSTOMERS SINCE ITALIANS ARE AN IMPORTANT IMPORTER OF PROTEIN FEED GRAINS AND ARE PRESENTLY USING EXPENSIVE FOOD GRAINS TO MAINTAIN THEIR ANIMAL PRODUCTION. MORO INDICATED HIS UNDERSTANDING OF THE PROBLEM AND EXPRESSED ENCOURAGEMENT FOR WHAT SEEMS TO BE A FAVORABLE SUPPLY SITUATION WITH THE NEW HARVEST.

3. WITH REGARD TO FERROUS SCRAP MORO ACCEPTED THE AMBASSADOR'S EXPLANATION FOR THE TIGHT SUPPLY SITUATION AND WAS APPRECIATIVE OF THE SUGGESTION THAT THE ITALIANS MIGHT TRY TO OBTAIN SURPLUS SCRAP IN GUATEMALA (SATE 148512; ROME 7716).

4. TURNING TO THE GATT NEGOTIATIONS FOR CONCESSIONS UNDER ARTICLE 24:6 THE FOREIGN MINISTER DID NOT SEEM TO APPRECIATE THE SERIOUS POLITICAL ISSUES INVOLVED. HE COMMENTED THAT THE FRENCH HAD RECENTLY SHOWN SOME WILLINGNESS TO COMPROMISE AND THEY WERE AT LEAST NOW TALKING ABOUT SPECIFIC TRADE ITEMS. THE AMBASSADOR STRONGLY EMPHASIZED THE NEED FOR AN ACCEPTABLE EUROPEAN PACKAGE IF WE ARE TO GET GOOD TRADE LEGISLATION TO PERMIT SERIOUS AND IMPORTANT NEGOTIATIONS IN THE GATT BEGINNING IN SEPTEMBER IN TOKYO.

5. IN CALL ON REAPPOINTED FOREIGN TRADE MINISTER MATTEOTTI, AMBASSADOR COVERED SIMILAR GROUND. MATTEOTTI WAS RESPONSIVE ON ART24:6 NEGOTIATIONS, SAYING HE AWARE THAT AN ACCEPTABLE PACKAGE IS VIRTUAL PRECONDITION TO SUCCESSFUL LAUNCHING OF NEGOTIATIONS IN TOKYO (WHERE HE WILL BE PRESENT). HE LIKE FERRARI-AGGRADI (ROME 7778) IS DEEPLY CONCERNED OVER THE IMPACT OF US EXPORT CONTROLS ON THE ITALIAN ECONOMY AND URGED THAT US DO ALL POSSIBLE TO HELP DURING DIFFICULT PERIOD OF INFLATION WHEN PSYCHOLOGICAL GESTURES BECOME PARTICULARLY IMPORTANT. VOLPE

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